

Revised: January 6, 2013

Effective: March 1, 2013

Guidance Document 2013/1b – Limo
(Supersedes 2012/1a-Limo)
\$500 Fee for Late Vehicle Inspections

The Michigan Department of Transportation's Office of Passenger Transportation has recently updated policies and procedures regarding the implementation and enforcement of Act 271 of 1990 – The Limousine Transportation Act. Based on this update, changes are being made to the collection of the \$500 fee for late inspections. This guidance document will explain how this provision of Act 271 **will be enforced beginning on March 1, 2013.**

- 1) A state approved inspection for a limousine must be received by MDOT by the end of the month in which the previous inspection expires (i.e., 12 months after the date of the previous inspection). Inspections are considered expired if they do not meet this deadline. A vehicle may not be operated in for-hire passenger service until an approved inspection has been received and verified by MDOT.
 - a. When an inspection has expired, the vehicle will be marked as such in MDOT's Bus and Limousine Regulatory Information System (BLRIS). This system is accessed by the police to determine if a specific company **and** a specific vehicle is being operated legally.
 - i) If all of the vehicles on a carrier's roster become unauthorized their name will be removed from the Authorized Carriers list posted on the MDOT website.
 - b. After a new inspection is received and verified by MDOT, the vehicle will be returned to good standing in BLRIS and the carrier will be notified that the vehicle is legal to operate. The carrier will also be returned to the Authorized Carriers list on the MDOT website.
- 2) Any carrier that allows an inspection to expire will be assessed a late inspection fee of \$500 per expired inspection in accordance with Section 21 of Act 271 of 1990.
- 3) Late inspection fees must be paid by the end of the month following the month in which the inspection is due. For instance, if an inspection is due in October and it is not received by MDOT by October 31, the late fee is due on the last day of November.
- 4) Per Section 21 of Act 271 of 1990, the certificate of any limo carrier of passengers who is delinquent in fees shall be revoked. **Therefore, if you do not pay the total required fee by the due date, your authority will be immediately revoked.**
 - a. To reinstate your authority you will have to register as a new applicant per Section 17 of Act 271 of 1990 and pay the \$300 filing fee in addition to the late inspection fee.

- b. At no time may you legally operate a vehicle for-hire that does not have an approved inspection on file with MDOT.

Important Reminders Regarding Inspections

- An original copy of your inspection form must be **received by MDOT** by the last day of the month in which your inspection expires.
- As a courtesy, MDOT will send a notice one month prior to the expiration of a vehicle inspection. If you do not receive this notice it does not absolve your company from your obligation to have the inspection done and submitted on time. We will **not** send a reminder.

Vehicles in Out-Of-Service Status

Vehicles may be placed temporarily out of service using MDOT form 3085 “Limousine Roster Update” which can be found on the MDOT website (www.michigan.gov/mdot). However, placing a vehicle in the Out-of Service status **does not** remove the requirement for the vehicle to pass an inspection prior to the previous one expiring. Once a specific vehicle has been registered under Act 271 of 1990, that vehicle must pass a safety inspection every 12 months to avoid the \$500 Fee for Expired Inspections, unless you have prior written approval from MDOT. To obtain written approval to remove a vehicle from service **and** allow the inspection to lapse, you must submit a request in writing to MDOT at least 30 calendar days before the inspection is to expire. The request must detail the extenuating circumstances preventing the vehicle from passing inspection (e.g., very recent accident, very recent major component failure, etc.). You must be able to supply proof that the circumstances could not have been prevented. Requests should be submitted to MDOT at:

Michigan Department of Transportation
Limousine Regulatory Unit
P.O. Box 30050
Lansing, MI 48909
Fax: (517) 241-0127

Without such prior approval, if a vehicle has been taken out of service and the inspection expires, the \$500 fee will be applied as described above.

HOW TO AVOID LATE FEES

- Get your vehicle(s) inspected early in the month by a certified mechanic. This allows time to correct any issues with the vehicle or inspection form before the end of the month.
- Carefully review all information on the inspection form to ensure that all fields are completed correctly.
- Make sure the repair facility's mechanic meets the following at a minimum:

Vehicles less than 10,000 lbs GVWR	Vehicles more than 10,000 lbs GVWR
AUTO - Front End, Suspension & Steering Systems	HDT - Drive Train
AUTO - Brakes & Braking Systems	HDT - Brakes & Braking Systems
	HDT - Suspension & Steering Systems

- **Don't delay!** Mail your inspection forms to MDOT immediately. If possible, hand-deliver your mail to the post office and request they postmark the mail that day. MDOT will accept the official postmark. If the mail is postmarked any time after the last day of the month in which the inspection is due, it shall be deemed late.
- FAX your vehicle inspections to MDOT at (517) 241-0127 if you are concerned they may arrive late (please call prior to faxing any information). Follow-up by immediately mailing the original forms to MDOT.
- After an inspection is received and verified by MDOT, a vehicle roster will be mailed to you. This is your verification that MDOT has received your inspection. Contact MDOT immediately if you have not received a roster.